

3rd Quarterly Report

Date of Report: July 20, 2016

Contract Number: **DTPH56-15-T-00012**

Prepared for: US DOT

Project Title: **Emissions Quantification Validation Process**

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For quarterly period ending: June 30, 2016

TECHNICAL STATUS

Task 1.2-B: Data Analysis from Surveys and Other Literature- Part 2

Completed

Data analysis from the surveys was completed during the quarter and a summary was sent to the funders. Due to the range of responses, it was decided that an approach with gas users interacting in meetings may also solicit more information that puts us in a position to advance the draft Validation protocols.

In the parallel effort where we are evaluating the technology service providers' offerings, the results of the second round of controlled testing that was performed in parallel to this project in the last quarter, have been analyzed by an independent statistician. While separate from the data analysis that we are performing on Validation processes, the results show that the quantification methodologies by third parties are not advancing at a pace that is commensurate with public reports on use of these technologies for other applications. The application of these technologies to prioritize non-hazardous leaks on gas distribution pipeline segments still has accuracy and precision challenges. Despite these findings, the funders of that project have agreed to move all (3) technology service providers technologies into live field testing. This action and completion of this work in the fall of 2016 will aid the Validation process discussion.

Task 1.3-A: Meeting with Operators to discuss optional validation approaches

In Progress

The NYSEARCH project manager began promoting the need for meetings with the operators in the 2nd Quarter. While this task was targeted for completion in the 3rd quarter, the NYSEARCH funders' decided in a conference call held in May that given resource constraints, that they would rather hold internal meetings on their own summer schedule. It was agreed that NYSEARCH Staff will use the project goals to set up a template for those meetings. Also, for this effort, we will submit a suggested rough outline of what issues need to be discussed in setting up draft protocols for the gas company validation of a methane emission quantification measurement by a third party. The NYSEARCH Project Manager was tasked with issuing that template and that work is advancing in the 4th Quarter.

Task 1.3-B: Followup Communications with Advisers/Operators/Managers on Surveys and Operational Procedures

Complete

Due to high resource constraints in the funding companies, there has been extra activity in the project under this task on communications to explain the survey and to get responses to the 'MonkeySurvey' poll. This work is stretched out because of the scenario where personnel are waiting to see what technologies are applicable and working sufficiently. However, even with the notion that some of the technologies are in the early to mid-stages of development, there is a need to use the validation discussion to help define the criteria for success in fully evaluating these technologies.

Task 1.4-A: Presentation of Survey Findings- Part 1

Complete

The survey findings have been released to the funders and have been discussed. A conference call that was held to discuss the parallel effort on technology evaluation also resulted in time spent discussing the survey and how to get more information beyond the survey regarding potential operator work practices to validate technologies. We are running into the issue of needing more information on the readiness of the technologies so some are reluctant to spend much time on the specifics of work practices to validate. Due to funder discussions on this work and the need for field testing in the parallel work, Part 1 of this task is discontinued. If the internal meetings cited in Task 1.3-B section

generate discussions that produce more value out of the survey results, we will re-visit this effort in Task 1.4-B.

Task 1.4-B: <i>Finalization of Survey Findings – Part 2</i>	<i>Not Initiated</i>
Task 2.1: <i>Development of Work Statement/RFP for Independent Consultant</i>	<i>Not Initiated</i>
Task 2.2-A: <i>Identify Independent Consultant</i>	<i>Not Initiated</i>
Task 2.3-A: <i>Develop Draft Specifications for Optional Validation Procedures</i>	<i>Not Initiated</i>
Task 5.1-B: <i>3rd Quarterly Report</i>	<i>Completed</i>

With this report, this task is completed. Also during the 3rd Quarter, we completed preparation and presentation of the Peer Review presentation for PHMSA and its Peer Review panelists.